

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DOHA NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 262426

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, QA

SUBJ : DOHA AIRPORT PROJECT
REF: DOHA 1200 AND PREVIOUS

1. ARP REGRETS DELAY IN REPLYING MEANINGFULLY TO REFTEL AND PREVIOUS. WITH THE INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE OF EB/AVP WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN IDENTIFYING TWO HIGHLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR "BLUE RIBBON INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE" TO STUDY DESIGN OF DOHA AIRPORT. BECAUSE OF PRIOR COMMITMENTS NEITHER CANDIDATE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON NOVEMBER 8, BUT WILLING TO BE CONSIDERED IF COMMITTEE CAN BE POSTPONED FOR WEEK OR TWO.

2. TWO CANDIDATES ARE:

A. TOM COLLINS, RETIRED FORMER SUPERVISOR OF PLANNING FOR PORT OF NEW YORK AUTHORITY, WHICH MANAGES THREE NEW YORK CITY AREA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS. COLLINS HAS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN DEALING WITH ALL ASPECTS OF TERMINAL DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT AND HAS WORKED MANY YEARS IN AIRPORTS WITH A VERY HIGH VOLUME OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS. IN ADDITION, COLLINS HAS BEEN TO THE MIDDLE EAST SEVERAL TIMES AND WAS IN FACT SCHEDULED TO BE TEACHING A COURSE

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ON AIRPORT DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT IN BEIRUT, BEFORE THE

RECENT TROUBLES THERE.

B. MICHAEL J. SGANGA OF DALLAS-FT.WORTH AIRPORT. SGANGA IS PRESENTLY EMPLOYED AS DIRECTOR OF PLANNING FOR THE WORLD'S LARGEST AIRPORT. HE HAS HELD THIS POSITION SINCE 1969. PRIOR TO THIS DATE, HE WAS AN ARCHITECT WITH THE FIRM ACTING AS OVERALL ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEF OF THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF DALLAS-FT.WORTH AIRPORT.

3. SINCE TIME PRESSURE IS SO STRONG, ARP IS PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS AN INTERMEDIARY CONTACT FOR ABOVE TWO INDIVIDUALS. EMBASSY SHOULD APPROACH QATARIS AND GET A DECISION ON WHICH OF THE TWO CANDIDATES SEEMS MORE APPROPRIATE. (FYI: SGANGA SUGGESTED THAT BOTH HE AND COLLINS WOULD MAKE A GOOD TEAM SINCE HIS DESIGN EXPERIENCE WOULD MESH NICELY WITH COLLINS' EXPERIENCE AT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS. END FYI)

4. ONCE GOQ HAS DECIDED ON A CANDIDATE, THEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY PROVIDE THEIR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOR FINANCING U.S. EXPERT'S TRAVEL. GOQ MIGHT ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER DIRECT APPROACH TO A MAJOR AIRLINE EMPOWERING THAT AIRLINE TO ISSUE ROUND TRIP TICKET TO CHOSEN CANDIDATE. PLEASE ADVISE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.
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